June 16, 2006

(Online at http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a27/enewsletter.htm)

A Budget Worth the Wait

For two weeks, six of us on the Legislature's Budget Conference Committee met to hammer out Assembly and Senate differences on 290 specific issues in the budget. We approved a state budget that invests in the areas of education, healthcare, the environment and transportation. The budget approved by the Conference Committee does all that while it spends less than the Governor proposed, includes a larger reserve than the Governor proposed, does a better job than the Governor of reducing the so-called "out-year" deficit, and provides nearly the same amount as the Governor proposed for debt repayment.

I'm proud we delivered this budget ready for an on-time vote by the Legislature—a vote that once again didn't happen because Republicans held it up, this time over that tried and true Republican election year issue: illegal immigration.

For the complete op-ed, <u>click here</u>.

John Delivers Assembly Weekly Radio Address

"This week, Assembly Democrats did all we could do to meet the state's constitutionally-mandated deadline of June 15th to pass a budget. We offered a balanced, responsible plan. It's fiscally prudent – and compassionate.

The budget Democrats propose gives our schools more of the resources they need, pays off debt, and lowers college costs.

But Republicans said "no" ..."

To listen to the address (recorded in both English and Spanish), or read the transcript, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

If you're receiving this as a forwarded email and would like to receive regular Laird updates, please send an email with "Subscribe" in the subject line to Assemblymember.Laird-newsletter@assembly.ca.gov. If you would prefer to not receive email updates, please respond with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

State Budget Resources:

Click here for links to:

- 2006-07 budget bill
- Governor's May Revise budget
- Budget Committee Analysis of the May Revise
- Independent Legislative Analyst's Office reports
- Other key budget resources

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